

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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Flood-Related Public Service Announcement

“Dealing with Mold”

Mold is a serious problem in flooded areas.

The key to controlling mold growth is by controlling moisture—and doing it quickly.

Dry out the building. Completely drying out a building will take time, and you may have to remove ceilings, wallboard, insulation, flooring and other materials if they were soaked.

However, these materials may also contain asbestos and should be tested first *if in doubt*. Microorganisms will continue growing as long as things are wet. When fumes aren't a problem and if electricity is available and safe, you can remove moisture by closing windows and running a dehumidifier or window air conditioner.

If you see mold or if there is an earthy or musty smell, you should assume a mold problem exists. Remove water damaged materials. Wash mold off hard surfaces with detergent and water, and dry completely. A disinfectant may be used to kill mold missed by the cleaning.

For more information about mold cleanup, call 271-3911. For information on asbestos testing, call 271-1373.

From the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

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